

Appln No. 10/677,994

Amdt date September 23, 2005

Reply to Office action of July 13, 2005

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

The above identified patent application has been amended and reconsideration is hereby requested. Claims 20-23 have been canceled. No claims have been added or amended. Claims 1-5, 7-14, 16, 18 and 19 are now pending in the application.

**I. Claims rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112**

The Examiner has rejection claim 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as allegedly indefinite. This claim has been canceled.

**II. Claims rejected under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103**

The Examiner has rejected Claims 20-23 under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 as being allegedly anticipated by or obvious over US Patent No. 5,051,733 issued to Neuhouser, et al. These claims have been canceled.

**III. Allowable Subject Matter**

Applicants note with appreciation that claims 1-5, 7-14, 16, 18 and 19 have been allowed. The remaining claims 20-23 have been canceled and therefore the Application as a whole is in condition for allowance.

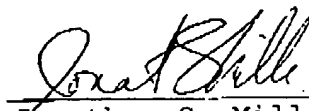
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Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that all claims now pending, namely claims 1-5, 7-14, 16, 18 and 19, patentably define the subject invention over the prior art of record, and are in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited at the earliest possible date. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would be useful in moving the application forward to allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at (626) 795-9900.

Respectfully submitted,  
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